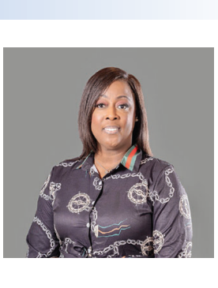
THE CITY OF YPSILANTI NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER



Greetings from the City Manager's Office!
I hope everyone had a splendid New Year and is keeping up with their resolutions for 2022. City Council is also working on our goals and began the process this month at our most recent hybrid format City Council meeting. The first two sessions in January, the 11th and 25th went well for our first time in this new format. The first goal session was held on the 25th, facilitated by Dr. Morgan Milner, and was held at the Freighthouse. The second and final session will be held on February 1st. I strongly encourage those who wish to participate to do so virtually. The council agenda and zoom information can be found on the cities webpage. City Council and staff has presented thoughtful goals and we look forward to finalizing these in order to prepare the FY 2022/23 budget.

Meeting Highlights can be found here: (1/11) (1/25)

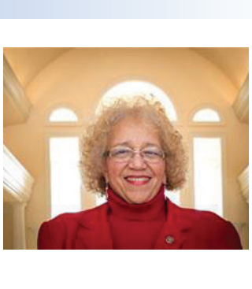
February is Black History Month. The city of Ypsilanti will sponsor a city-wide event via zoom to celebrate the rich history and contributions of African Americans in our community. Let's resolve to recognize the accomplishments and foundation built in our community since its inception, not just in February but throughout the year. Join us as we earnestly look for solutions to bring justice and equity, as we continue this important work together. Our Black Lives Matter murals are one critical symbol of this commitment, and we look forward to engaging in more transformative programs and initiatives to uplift and improve lives. Please contact Thomas Koch Communication Manager (tkoch@cityofypsilanti.com) for information on how to participate in this event.

I want to remind everyone that the COVID-19 pandemic remains a severe threat in our community. The best way we can support one another is by getting vaccinated and following state and county guidelines to reduce the spread of the virus. We must work together as a community to keep one another safe. Please contact the local health department regarding vaccination and testing opportunities in the community. Stay safe, stay healthy and please wear your mask.

Please remember to keep your sidewalks clear with the weather advisory. Please take a look at the snow ordinance further in the newsletter.

Staying Connected,
Frances McMullan

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR LOIS ALLEN RICHARDSON



Greetings,
It's hard to believe it is already February; the year is moving quickly. February might be the shortest year of the month, but it has two significant distinctions: Valentine's Day, also known by some as the LOVE month, and Black History Month. Both of these issues mean a lot to a lot of people.

Let's take a look at Valentine's Day; remember back in elementary school when we were all eager to give and receive those little heart cards and the candy hearts that said things like "U R nice," "be my friend," "I Love U" and oh how good we felt when we got them and how badly we felt when we didn't? When didn't we get a valentine or any candy? We felt lonely, rejected, and felt something was wrong, and maybe hopeless? Well, for some of us the last couple of years, going through the pandemic being shut in, being alone, and isolated has made many adults and children feel that same way, so much, so some see no reason to live. There has been an increase in suicides and attempted suicides in the area since the beginning of the pandemic. Our neighbors, friends, or family members, and some of those people only needed to know someone cared. Some may have only needed a kind word or gesture to make the difference for them. During this LOVE month, let's make a resolution to be nice to everyone we meet, make a special effort to be kind, to say "please" and "thank you" to those helping us in the stores where we shop, at the gas station, our child's teacher, etc., you get the picture, it doesn't cost to be excellent. To repeat a quote heard more than once, " Be kinder than necessary; everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle." We like to put it this way "Tell someone you LOVE them and make their day."

February 1 begins Black History Month, a month when we celebrate the History and achievements of Blacks in America. The story of recognizing Black History is an interesting one. It originated in Chicago by Carter G. Woodson as a single day, progressed to a week, and finally a month-long celebration. Black History is American History. As we consider the move in the nation to prohibit the teaching of the origin, struggles, and hardships of Blacks in this nation, we believe it is all the more critical that we remember the story of Blacks in our City. Last month the City had an MLK celebration where we had a living history given by a former mayor and residents. They discussed the state of race relations in Ypsilanti before and during the Civil Rights Movement. They let us know that Ypsilanti didn't have Jim Crow laws, but it had Jim Crow practices. If you missed the program, you could view it on the City's YouTube page.
To enlarge upon the history lesson, the City is planning a Black History Program around the History of Black First Responders. Please join us on Friday, February 25, 10:00–11:30 am. It is essential to know where we have been, understand where we are and know where we are going. We must never go back.

Finally, please be mindful to check on our neighbors, pets, and our homeless population and help wherever we can in these frigid temperatures. There is a Day Warming Center at the Freighthouse Monday thru Thursday from 8 am-6 pm. Prepared food and snacks are welcome. Please only already cook ready-to-eat items; thank you. Other items welcomed and needed are socks, hats, gloves, scarves, hand warmers, anything that would help you stay warm in these freezing temps.

We have several homeless shelters in the Ypsilanti area, such as SOS Community Service Shelter Program. SOS pays special attention to homeless women, men, and their children. There are other facilities and services in the Ypsilanti area, so please share with those who need shelter.

LOVE is the answer,
Lois Allen-Richardson

CITY UPDATES

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS VACANCIES

Arts Commission
Two Commissioners
Two Youth Members

Dangerous Bldgs
Dangerous Buildings Officer

Human Relations Commission
Two Youth Members

Planning Commission
Commissioner

Parks & Recreation Commission
Commissioner
Three Youth Members

Police Advisory Commission
Commissioner
Two Youth Members

Sustainability Commission
Commissioner
Two Youth Members

YDDA
Board Member

Zoning Board of Appeals
Three Commissioners

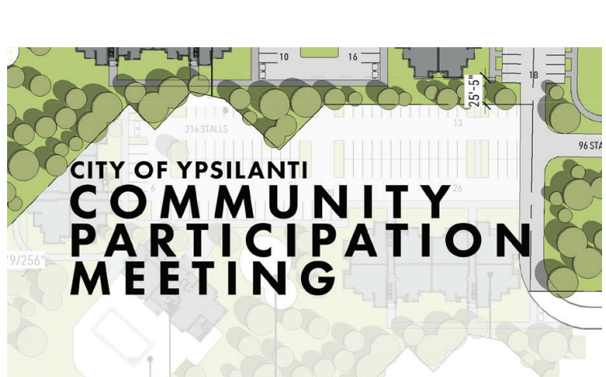
Fill out this online form if you are interested in the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions.

PEN DAM REMOVAL UPDATE

What's going on with the Peninsular Dam Removal? The sediment studies have been completed by Limno Tech, which delayed the town hall meeting originally scheduled in October. Huron River Watershed Council created a video in a series on the City of Ypsilanti's Peninsular Park Dam removal project. The film delves into sediment sampling of the river bed—how it happens and why it matters. You may find that video here.

We want to thank everyone who has participated in these engagements over the past year. For those who attended virtual meetings or completed a survey, your input matters, and we will inform you of the upcoming town hall once the date is determined. We're considering COVID safety for the community, which is now the main factor for timing and formatting this meeting to safely hear from as many people as possible. Again, once a town hall date has been decided, those interested in participating can view it on the city website and Facebook page.

845 & 945 CLARK RD DEVELOPMENT



A community participation meeting will be held **Monday, February 7th, 2022**, at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse located at 100 Market Pl, Ypsilanti MI 48197 to discuss a proposed development project at 945 Clark Rd. The meeting will be in a hybrid format.

It is strongly encouraged to attend the meeting virtually due to the increase in COVID-19 cases in the 48197 and 48198 zip codes. The link to virtual attendance is HERE.

The purpose of this meeting shall be to inform the community about the project and to allow the community to discuss potential Community Benefits. The developer has requested financial incentives from the City triggering a process as described in Ordinance 1325. There shall be time at this meeting for those present to ask questions, discuss, and identify among themselves potential Community Benefits, and recommend resident members for the ad-hoc committee discussed in Section 30-527 B of Ordinance 1325. Applications for appointment shall be made available for resident members of the ad-hoc committee. The Developer shall be present at this meeting to present information and answer questions. This notice is being provided no less than 30 days in advance per the requirements of Ordinance 1325 and is subject to the Open Meetings Act and its records subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Within 15 days of this community participation meeting, City Council will establish an ad-hoc committee consisting of one Interested Councilmember; and five to eight residents of the City of Ypsilanti. City Council shall select the Interested Councilmember among themselves to serve on the committee. The Mayor, subject to the approval of the City Council, shall appoint the remaining members of the committee with at least three members being selected from those recommended at the community participation meeting identified above. The purpose of the ad-hoc committee is to identify Community Benefits mutually agreed upon with the Developer and make a recommendation to City Council.

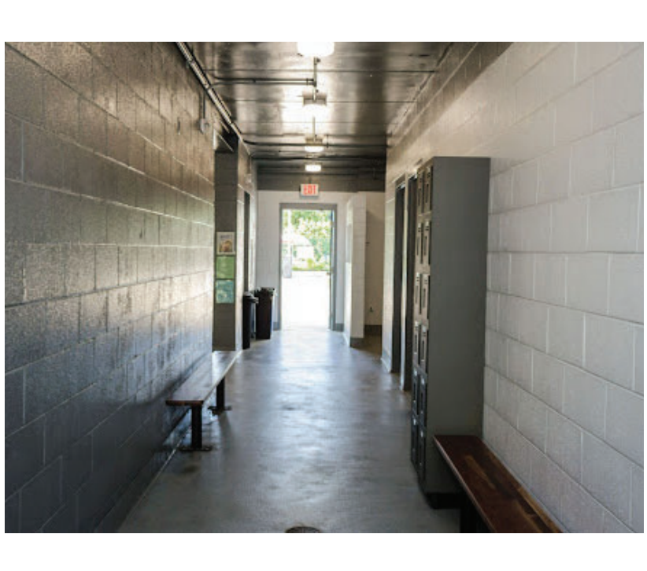
Additional information may be found concerning the proposed development and Ordinance 1325 describing the process and potential community benefits in detail at www.cityofypsilanti.com/cbo.

RUTHERFORD POOL

The Rutherford Pool Bathhouse was recently renovated and selected by Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (mParks) as a 2021-2022 Facility Design Award Winner. Cornerstone Design Inc. of Ann Arbor drafted the architectural design, and the Ypsilanti-based Phoenix Construction was selected as the general contractor.

The Rutherford pool was initially constructed in 1971, with a projected life span of twenty-five years. Amidst city-wide budget cuts, the nonprofit Friends of the Rutherford Pool took over daily operations of the pool in the early 2000s and led a complete rebuild of the outdoor pool from 2011-2013, funded with generous donations and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant, and reopened in 2014. In 2019, the pool closed again for bathhouse renovations, again funded with generous donations and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant; reopened in 2021 with its renovated bathhouse.

With close attention to annual repairs and tireless dedication of the staff, the life span of the pool was stretched from twenty-five years to over forty years. After formidable grassroots fundraising of over $700,000, they were finally able to move forward on much-needed renovations to the locker rooms and bathhouse, with plans for improved lighting, seating and locker space, a new roof, the addition of gender-neutral and family changing rooms, native landscaping, and solar power. Plans were made to ensure the renovated building would be ADA compliant and fully accessible.



The Michigan Recreation and Park Association honors exemplary park and recreation projects and programs through the Association's annual awards. The Michigan Recreation and Park Association, mParks, is committed to proving parks and recreation matter; that they improve quality of life and contribute enormously to our economy. mParks provides advocacy, resources, and professional development opportunities to a devoted and diverse membership of park and recreation agencies, professionals, vendors, and advocates.

The Rutherford Pool is open seasonally from June to August in Recreation Park at 975 Congress St. For more information about the pool, its bathhouse, hours of operation, employment, and volunteer opportunities; please visit their website at https://www.forpool.org/

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Ypsilanti Fire Department successfully rescued a female victim from Huron River on January 11th. This occurred around 10:45 AM in the river adjacent to Peninsular Park. The victim was found hanging onto an ice shelf halfway across the river (about 150-200 ft from shore). A firefighter was able to traverse the ice to get close enough to use a "throw bag" and pulled the victim to safety. She was transported to a local hospital. Other agencies that assisted with the incident were: Ypsilanti Township Fire Department, Superior Township Fire Department, Ypsilanti Police, Washtenaw County Sheriff, Huron Valley Ambulance.

The woman's dog, a white pit bull, ran from firefighters and police who were attempting to capture it. The dog was later located and recovered safely by the Human Society of Huron Valley, officials said.

The photo above was provided by the firefighter Noe Gomez-Ornelas, who enjoys photography as a hobby and has shared some quality photos from training in Depot Town, last year. After meeting Gomez, and noticing his passion for the community and photography, we hope to share more high-quality images in future Newsletters. We are very blessed to have such compassionate frontline workers within the city of Ypsilanti.

WASHTENAW COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Washtenaw County Conservation District
705 N. Zeeb Rd., Suite 201 • Ann Arbor MI 48103
Office: (734) 302-8715 • www.washtenawcd.org

Hello City of Ypsilanti Neighbors!

Through a generous grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resource's Urban and Community Forestry Program, the Washtenaw County Conservation District (WCCD), in collaboration with elected City officials and staff, is excited to pilot a program to assist the community in identifying strengths, challenges, and opportunities to enhance and protect trees and forests. Trees provide a wide range of benefits: the oxygen we breathe, stormwater mitigation, cleaner air and water, reduction in surface heat island effects, carbon sequestration, and improvements to human mental and physical health. These benefits make trees a vital component of any community and excellent problem solvers. However, sometimes policies or the distribution of trees on the landscape reduces or limits their beneficial impact.

This pilot project aims to identify how trees could best serve the residents of the City of Ypsilanti. The WCCD will conduct a review of current ordinances and zoning policies, using Geographic Information Systems to assess the current distribution of trees, and identify potential planting areas based on community priorities. Hence, the WCCD needs your input! If you have access to the internet and a working email address, please visit this website. If you do not have access to the internet or a working email address, the WCCD will make paper copies of the survey available at City Hall (One South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, Call for Hours: 734-483-1100). **A paper copy can also be requested by calling WCCD at 734-302-8715.** Results from the pilot project will be shared at a public meeting in fall 2022.

The WCCD is a local unit of State government, assisting private landowners, businesses, and others, with the management of their natural resources in Washtenaw County. The WCCD is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Additional information is available online at www.washtenawcd.org.

SNOW ORDINANCE AND ABATEMENT PROCEDURES

TO ALL CITY OF YPSILANTI PROPERTY OWNERS
The city's snow ordinance and abatement procedures go into effect November 26, 2021. Please be advised of the following:

1. Snow must be removed from sidewalks and parking lots within 24 hours of first accumulation of one inch (1") or more.
2. Ice must, if practicable, immediately be removed from sidewalks and parking lots. When immediate removal is impracticable, sand, salt or other chemical or materials must immediately be used and then ice must be removed as soon as practicable.
3. Only one (1) warning for abatement will be left at any parcel per snow season. Further violations will result in abatement without additional notices left at the property. The property owner/agent is responsible for abatement costs.
4. A citation will be issued for every violation, even the first. Fines increase each offense.
5. A five foot (5') path must be maintained on sidewalks at all times to be in compliance. (Properties with public sidewalks less than 5' in width must be cleared to the edges of the paved areas). Ypsilanti City Code Chapter 94, Section 94-135(a) defines the "snow season" as October 1st through May 31st. Failure to comply with abatement notice will result in the city's contractor being hired to correct the violation, with all costs for services invoiced to the property owner/agent. Further information may be obtained through the Code Enforcement Division at (734) 482-9626, or at www.cityofypsilanti.com/codeenforcement.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our Meeting Highlights have continued, which covers topics mentioned at our City Council meetings. The idea behind Meeting Highlights is to encourage Ypsilanti residents to brief a summary of what occurred at Council. With hopes that they will attend our public meetings in the future. Those who are interested can view it on our youtube page

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATES

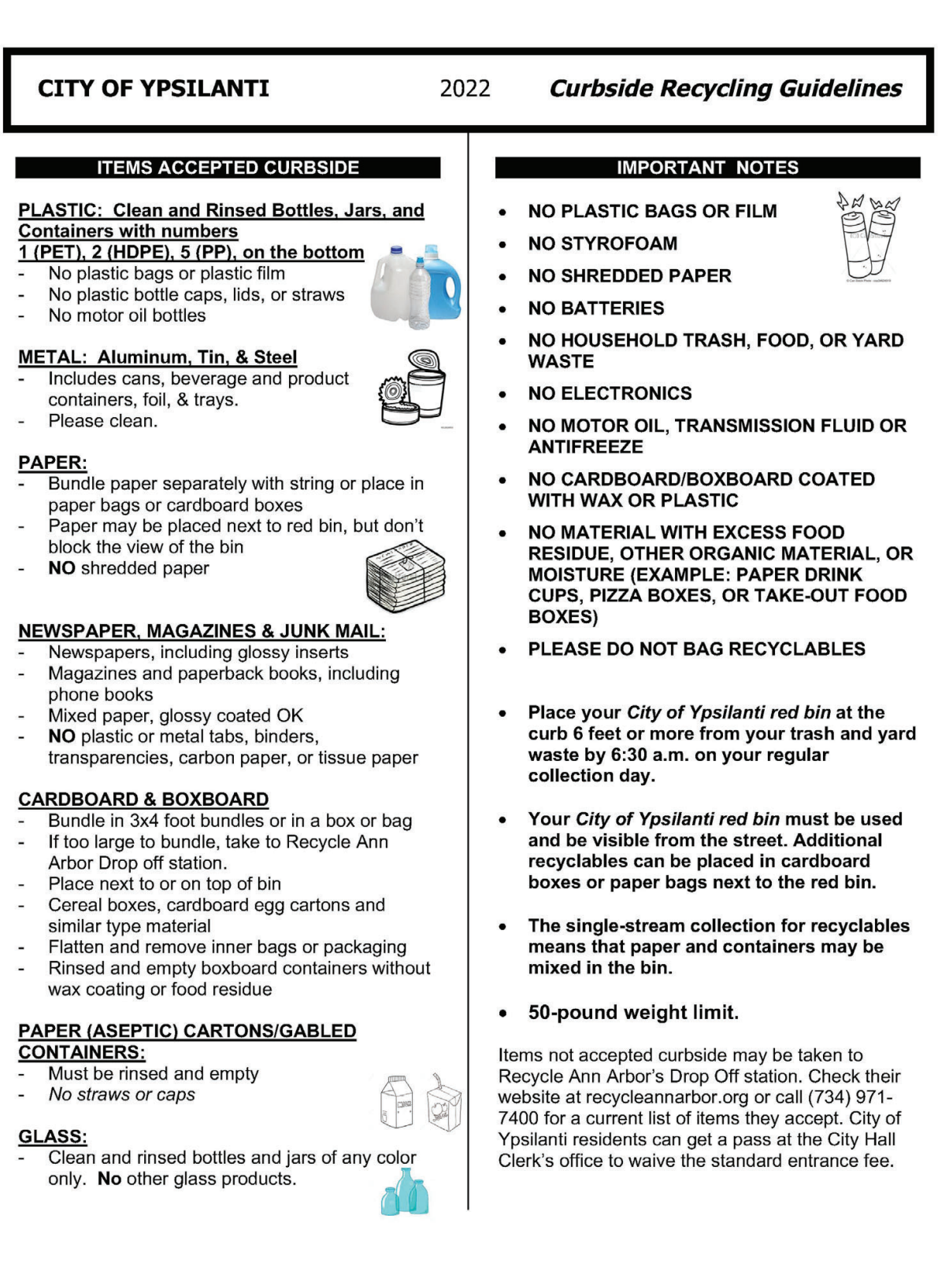
RECYCLING PROGRAM CHANGES:

Reminder about the recycling changes that went into effect January 1st.

Now Accepting: Glass (Clean and rinsed bottles and jars of any color), aseptic containers (i.e. juice boxes, milk cartons, etc.), and clean boxboard food containers (i.e. cereal boxes, cracker boxes, etc.)

No Longer Accepting: #4 (LDPE), #6 (PS), or #7 (Other) plastics or shredded paper.

Please look for an updated recycling information at cityofypsilanti.com/301/Recycling-Program



CITY OF YPSILANTI 2022 ***Curbside Recycling Guidelines***

ITEMS ACCEPTED CURBSIDE

PLASTIC: Clean and Rinsed Bottles, Jars, and Containers with numbers 1 (PET), 2 (HDPE), 5 (PP), on the bottom
- No plastic bags or plastic film
- No plastic bottle caps, lids, or straws
- No motor oil bottles

METAL: Aluminum, Tin, & Steel
- Includes cans, beverage and product containers, foil, & trays.
- Please clean.

PAPER:
- Bundle paper separately with string or place in paper bags or cardboard boxes
- Paper may be placed next to red bin, but don't block the view of the bin
- **NO** shredded paper

NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES & JUNK MAIL:
- Newspapers, including glossy inserts
- Magazines and paperback books, including phone books
- Mixed paper, glossy coated OK
- **NO** plastic or metal tabs, binders, transparencies, carbon paper, or tissue paper

CARDBOARD & BOXBOARD
- Bundle in 3x4 foot bundles or in a box or bag
- If too large to bundle, take to Recycle Ann Arbor Drop off station.
- Place next to or on top of bin
- Cereal boxes, cardboard egg cartons and similar type material
- Flatten and remove inner bags or packaging
- Rinsed and empty boxboard containers without wax coating or food residue

PAPER (ASEPTIC) CARTONS/GABLED CONTAINERS:
- Must be rinsed and empty
- *No straws or caps*

GLASS:
- Clean and rinsed bottles and jars of any color only. **No** other glass products.

IMPORTANT NOTES

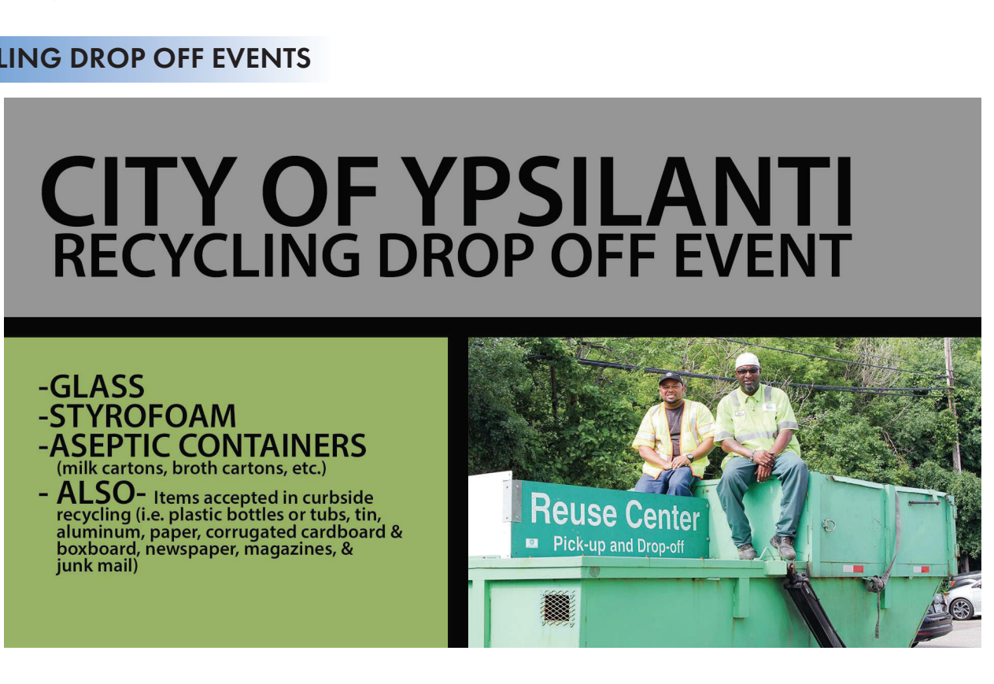
- **NO PLASTIC BAGS OR FILM**
- **NO STYROFOAM**
- **NO SHREDDED PAPER**
- **NO BATTERIES**
- **NO HOUSEHOLD TRASH, FOOD, OR YARD WASTE**
- **NO ELECTRONICS**
- **NO MOTOR OIL, TRANSMISSION FLUID OR ANTIFREEZE**
- **NO CARDBOARD/BOXBOARD COATED WITH WAX OR PLASTIC**
- **NO MATERIAL WITH EXCESS FOOD RESIDUE, OTHER ORGANIC MATERIAL, OR MOISTURE (EXAMPLE: PAPER DRINK CUPS, PIZZA BOXES, OR TAKE-OUT FOOD BOXES)**
- **PLEASE DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES**
- **Place your *City of Ypsilanti red bin* at the curb 6 feet or more from your trash and yard waste by 6:30 a.m. on your regular collection day.**
- **Your *City of Ypsilanti red bin* must be used and be visible from the street. Additional recyclables can be placed in cardboard boxes or paper bags next to the red bin.**
- **The single-stream collection for recyclables means that paper and containers may be mixed in the bin.**
- **50-pound weight limit.**

Items not accepted curbside may be taken to Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop Off station. Check their website at recycleannarbor.org or call (734) 971-7400 for a current list of items they accept. City of Ypsilanti residents can get a pass at the City Hall Clerk's office to waive the standard entrance fee.

RECYCLING WIZARD

WRRMA Waste Wizard - an interactive recycling search tool!
Type the name of a waste material, and the wizard will tell you where it goes for recycling, composting or disposal. Pretty neat huh?
Find it on our recycling page!

FREE RECYCLING DROP OFF EVENTS



CITY OF YPSILANTI
RECYCLING DROP OFF EVENT

-GLASS
-STYROFOAM
-ASEPTIC CONTAINERS
(milk cartons, broth cartons, etc.)
- ALSO- Items accepted in curbside recycling (i.e. plastic bottles or tubs, tin, aluminum, paper, corrugated cardboard & boxboard, newspaper, magazines, & junk mail)

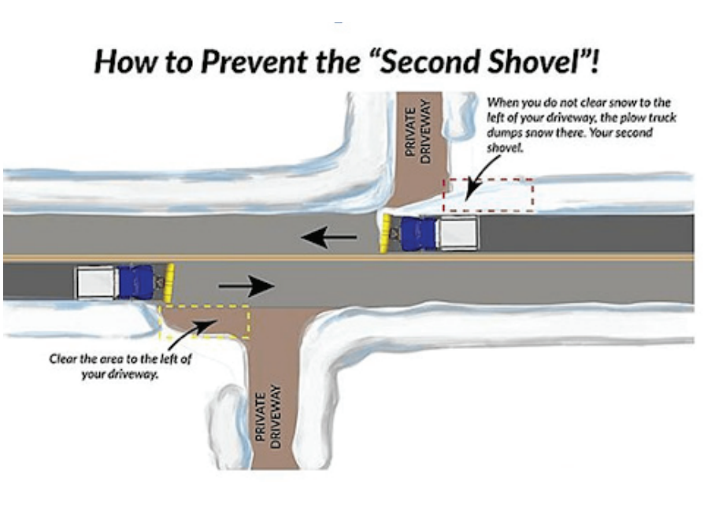
Reuse Center
Pick-up and Drop-off

FREE DROP OFF RECYCLING for the following materials:
-Glass
-Styrofoam
-Aseptic Containers (milk cartons, broth cartons, etc.)
-Items accepted in curbside recycling (i.e. plastic bottles or tubs, tin, aluminum, paper, corrugated cardboard & boxboard, newspaper, magazines, & junk mail)
All GLASS, STYROFOAM, & ASEPTIC CONTAINERS must be separated, clean and dry. Items which are normally accepted in curbside recycling (listed above) do not need to be separated, but they will need to be clean and dry.

This event is for CITY OF YPSILANTI RESIDENTS ONLY
14 W Forest Ave, Ypsilanti, MI 48197-2447, United States
February 26
March 26
April 30
May 21
June 25

TIPS ON SHOVELING SNOW YOUR DRIVEWAY TO AVOID BEING PLOWED IN:

How to Prevent the "Second Shovel"!

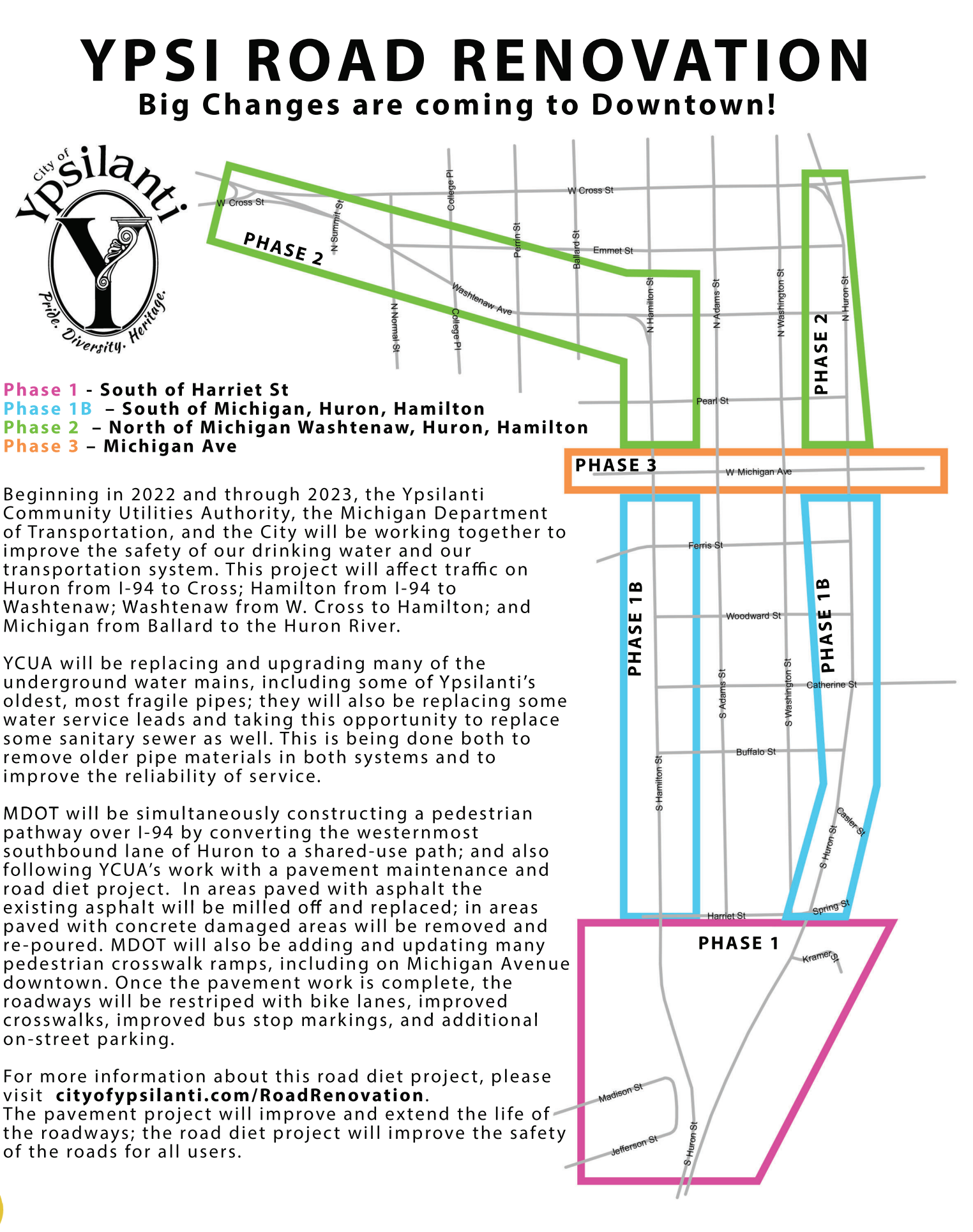

When you do not clear snow to the left of your driveway, the plow truck dumps snow there. Your second shovel.
PRIVATE DRIVEWAY
Clear the area to the left of your driveway.
PRIVATE DRIVEWAY

One of the most common concerns residents share with us during the winter season is that our snowplows push snow onto their driveways after they were shoveled requiring them to shovel their driveway a second time. Snowplows are designed to push snow to the right and unfortunately, this is an unavoidable consequence of removing snow from the road. We understand our residents' frustrations and wanted to offer a potential solution to help minimize the amount of snow pushed in front of your driveway and mailbox.

One solution that many communities recommend is when you shovel your driveway push the snow to the right side of your drive as you face the road and clear a pocket of snow on the opposite side of your driveway about ten (10) feet in length. When the snowplows come through the accumulated snow on the plow will dump most of the snow into the pocket and not in your driveway. Please see the below diagram for a visual depiction of this and this link for a video from the Missouri Department of Transportation discussing this. This tip should help residents minimize the amount of snow getting pushed into their driveway from snowplows.

Thank you and if you have any additional questions please feel free to contact the Public Services Department at 734-483-1421 or via e-mail at rakers@cityofypsilanti.com.

YPSI ROAD RENOVATION



YPSI ROAD RENOVATION
Big Changes are coming to Downtown!

Phase 1 - South of Harriet St
Phase 1B - South of Michigan, Huron, Hamilton
Phase 2 - North of Michigan Washtenaw, Huron, Hamilton
Phase 3 - Michigan Ave

Beginning in 2022 and through 2023, the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority, the Michigan Department of Transportation, and the City will be working together to improve the safety of our drinking water and our transportation system. This project will affect traffic on Huron from I-94 to Cross; Hamilton from I-94 to Washtenaw; Washtenaw from W. Cross to Hamilton; and Michigan from Ballard to the Huron River.

YCUA will be replacing and upgrading many of the underground water mains, including some of Ypsilanti's oldest, most fragile pipes; they will also be replacing some water service leads and taking this opportunity to replace some sanitary sewer as well. This is being done both to remove older pipe materials in both systems and to improve the reliability of service.

MDOT will be simultaneously constructing a pedestrian pathway over I-94 by converting the westernmost southbound lane of Huron to a shared-use path; and also following YCUA's work with a pavement maintenance and road diet project. In areas paved with asphalt the existing asphalt will be milled off and replaced; in areas paved with concrete damaged areas will be removed and re-poured. MDOT will also be adding and updating many pedestrian crosswalk ramps, including on Michigan Avenue downtown. Once the pavement work is complete, the roadways will be restriped with bike lanes, improved crosswalks, improved bus stop markings, and additional on-street parking.

For more information about this road diet project, please visit **cityofypsilanti.com/RoadRenovation**.
The pavement project will improve and extend the life of the roadways; the road diet project will improve the safety of the roads for all users.

NEWS FROM THE YPSILANTI DDA

NEW BUSINESSES IN THE DDA!

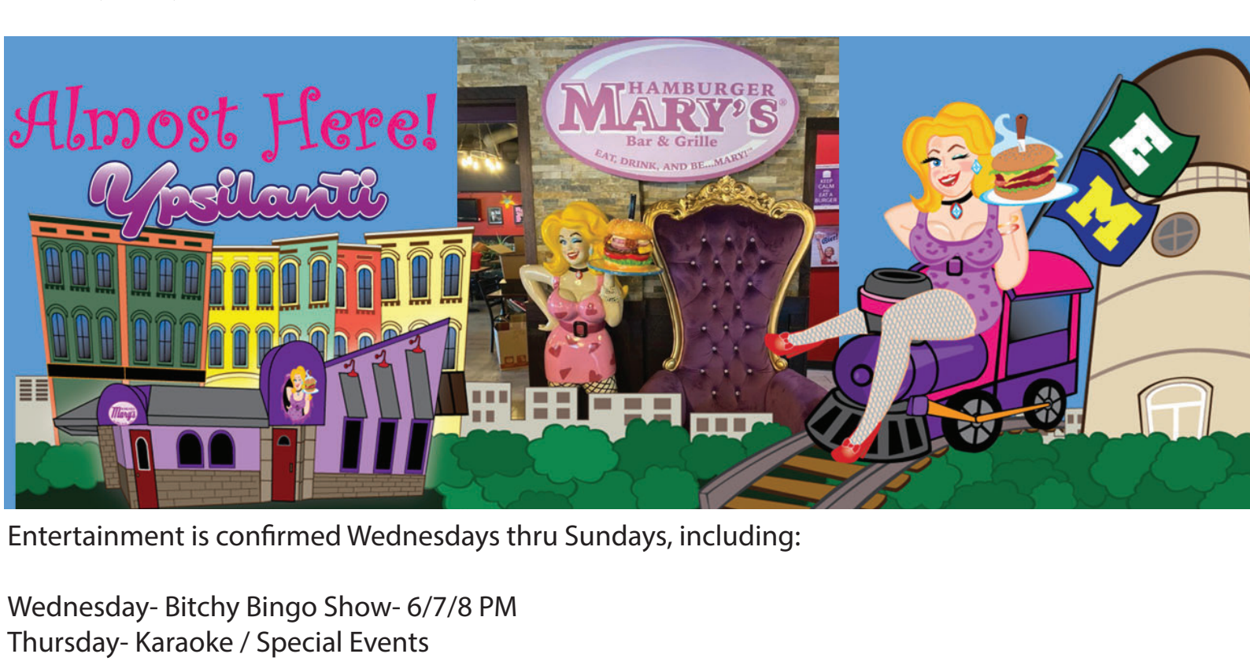
Shrimp Flavours:
Located at 529 W. Cross, a new restaurant serving Hawaiian Style and Traditional Indian Curries. According to their recent social media post, sharing spices that will keep you warm during these cold months: Ginger, Cinnamon, Cardamom, Turmeric, Nutmeg…All five spices are used in their curries. The delicious tandoori chicken Is a must try and the photo is provided.

Shrimp Flavours is closed on Tuesdays, open weekdays from 11 AM to 11 PM and weekends from 11 AM to Midnight; with a two-hour break from 3 PM-5 PM.

Please stop by and support this new local business!

Michaels Gold and Diamond
Located in Downtown at 120 Pearl St, "Michaels Gold and Diamond", is an exciting new antique and vintage jewelry destination to add to your list of favorites. We sat down to welcome Tony to Ypsilanti a few weeks ago and learn more about his business buying and selling collectible items. Though his storefront location is new, Tony has been in the business for a long time and has an eye for that very special treasure you might be looking for. The inventory at Michaels Gold and Diamond varies from eclectic costume jewelry to one of a kind pieces you won't find anywhere else. If you're interested in seeing what extra jewelry you have sitting around the house is worth, he can help you with that too! Stop in and visit Wednesday-Sunday Noon-5pm and find something new

Hamburger Marys:
The former Tower Inn in Ypsilanti will soon serve up burgers and drag shows alongside Italian favorites with the arrival of Hamburger Mary's! We are excited to welcome Hamburger Mary's to Ypsilanti as our newest and possibly most fabulous restaurant. Located at 701 W Cross, Hamburger Marys is combined with the Tower Inn to offer both concepts under one roof. Are you ready for Friday theme late-night shows at 10 PM and 11 PM, and Midnight with discounted appetizers and 50% off drinks? Their first late-night Friday show is February 4th, and the theme is "80s". Be sure to watch their Facebook for more information on where to make your reservations, as this new concept is sure to be a significant hit. Starting in February, Mary's will be open seven days a week!



Entertainment is confirmed Wednesdays thru Sundays, including:

Wednesday- Bitchy Bingo Show- 6/7/8 PM
Thursday- Karaoke / Special Events
Friday- Dining with the diva's Show- 7/8/9 PM Mary Themed nights Show- 10/11/Midnight.
Saturday-Dining with the diva's Show- 6/7/8/9 pm - Talent night 10 PM/12 AM
Sunday Drag Brunch Show -12/2 pm
Sunday Dinner with the diva's Show- 5/6/7/8 pm

We met with Doug to discuss his vision for the new restaurant concept, and he had this to offer, "I think it's important for everyone to know that this is a safe space for everybody. Everybody is welcome," he said. "We don't care who you vote for; we don't care who you love. As long as you come in here with an open heart and are accepting, you're welcome in our four walls."

HOLIDAY STOREFRONT COMPETITION

The time has come to close the polls and tally up the votes for the YDDA Holiday Storefront Competition! We had over 550 unique votes, and over half were scanned through our QR codes on the front of the businesses. Thank you to all of our participants that helped make Ypsilanti a festive destination for the holidays. All participating storefronts displayed great care and artistry, however, there can only be four winners.

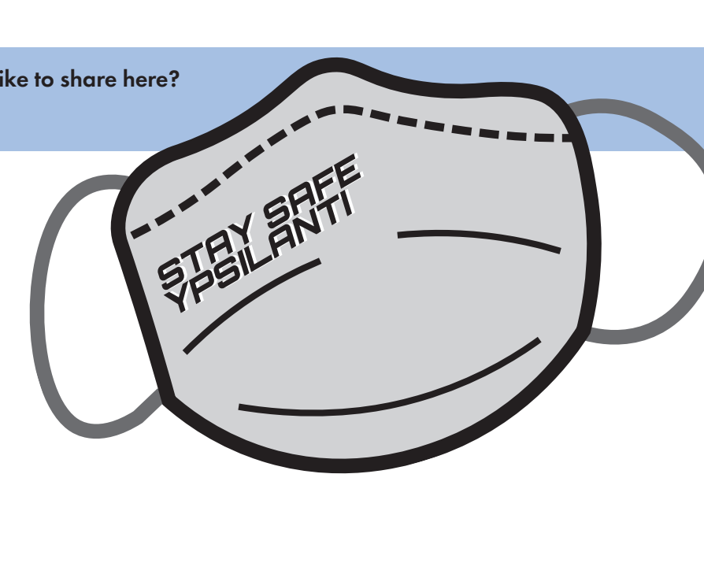
Best Holiday Lighting:
$500 Prize
Aubrees - Depot Town

Best Traditional Display:
$500 Prize
A2Vintage

Most "Ypsi" Display:
$500 Prize
The Rocket Candy and Novelties

Best Overall:
$1000 Prize and bragging rights for the year
This, that, and the ODDer things

The DDA has purchased the winning amount in gift cards from the four winners will be sending them to randomly selected voters.

**Do you have something happening in the city you'd like to share here?
Email your article to tkoch@cityofypsilanti.com**